

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 06782 031619Z

41

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 NEAE-00 DHA-02 ORM-02

SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 FDRE-00 OPR-02

A-01 SY-05 OC-06 CCO-00 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 HEW-04

MED-02 /106 W

----- 117404

O P 031552Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1434

INFO SIT-REP COLLECTIVE PRIORITY 44

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM

CINCUSNAVEUR, LONDON ENG

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GER

CIA WASHDC

COMSIXTHFLT

COMPHIBRON FOUR

COM THREE TWO MAU

CTF SIX ZERO

CTF SIX ONE

CTF SIX TWO

CTG SIX ZERO PT TWO

FICEURLANT NORFOLK VA

FOSIF ROTA SPAIN

DIA WASHDC

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GER

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 6782

STUTTGART FOR ELG

E.O. 11652: GDS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 06782 031619Z

TAGS: PFOR, LE, PINT, SHUM, MILI

SUBJECT: RED CROSS BEGINS EVACUATION OF TELL ZAATAR WOUNDED

1. ICRC SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED FIRST STAGE OF EVACUATION OF IC

SSS FROM BESEIGED TELL ZAATAR PALESTINIAN CAMP IN CHRISTIAN-CONTROLLED EAST BEIRUT TO PALESTINIAN/LEBANESE LEFTIST-CONTROLLED WEST BEIRUT AUGUST 3. LOCAL CEASEFIRE, TO WHICH ALL PARTIES HAD FINALLY AGREED IN WRITING, WENT INTO EFFECT AT 0800 LOCAL. ICRC CONVOY OF TRUCKS AND AMBULANCES AND FEW DOCTORS CROSSED CITY CONFRONTATION LINE AND ENTERED CAMP AREA AT APPROXIMATELY 0900 LOCAL. CONVOY RETURNED AND DEPOSITED 91 WOUNDED AT ARAB UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL IN WEST BEIRUT IN MIDAFTERNOON.

2. ICRC PERSONNEL WHO RETURNED WITH CONVOY HAD NO ESTIMATES ON TOTAL NUMBER OF WOUNDED STILL IN CAMP WHO SHOULD BE EVACUATED. HOWEVER, EARLIER REPORTS SUGGESTED OVER 1000 WOUNDED AT CAMP, AND SWEDISH DOCTOR AT CAMP FEW DAYS AGO INDICATED 4000.

3. CONVOY FINALLY SUCCEEDED AFTER FIVE OR SIX ABORTIVE EARLIER ATTEMPTS. PRINCIPAL PROBLEM WAS OBJECTIONS AND CONDITIONS RAISED BY VARIOUS OF FIGHTING ELEMENTS, ESPECIALLY "TIGER" MILITIA OF NATIONAL LIBERAL PARTY LED BY CAMILLE CHAMOUN AND SMALL "GUARDIANS OF THE CEDAR," AN EXTREMIST MILITANT RIGHTIST ORGANIZATION, SUCH AS DEMANDS THAT PALESTINIAN FIGHTERS NOT WOUNDED AS WELL AS WOMEN AND CHILDREN BE EVACUATED BEFORE WOUNDED, OR THAT EVACUEES BE SUBJECTED TO INTERROGATION BEFORE DEPARTURE. FEW DAYS AGO, ICRC PREPARED STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES UNDER WHICH IT INSISTED IT MUST OPERATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS IMPARTIAL AND INTERNATIONAL STATUS. PALESTINIAN AND LEBANESE LEFTIST LEADERSHIP HAD IMMEDIATELY SIGNED CONDITIONS. RIGHTIST ORGANIZATIONS DELAYED, FINALLY AGREEING ON AUGUST 2 UNDER INTENSE PRESSURE FROM ARAB LEAGUE NEGOTIATOR ON-THE-SPOT, HASSAN SABRI KHOLI, AND, WE SUSPECT, CHAMOUNIST AWARENESS OF GROWING INTERNATIONAL INDIGNATION.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BEIRUT 06782 031619Z

4. AS OF 1700 LOCAL AUGUST 3, ICRC HAD NO TIMETABLE FOR FURTHER EVACUATION. HOWEVER, ICRC HAS REPEATEDLY SAID THAT COMPLETE EVACUATION WOULD TAKE SEVERAL CONVOYS OVER SEVERAL DAYS. WE EXPECT THAT, BARRING NEW DIFFICULTIES, ICRC WILL ORGANIZE ANOTHER CONVOY AUGUST 4, AND EACH SUCCEEDING DAY, AS LONG AS CALLED FOR BY SITUATION AND PERMITTED BY CHRISTIANS

BESEIGNING CAMP. ALL HOSPITALS IN WEST BEIRUT,
INCLUDING AMERICAN UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL, WILL BE TAXED
TO UTMOST LIMITS OF THEIR PHYSICAL AND HUMAN
RESOURCES.
HUNT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EMERGENCY EVACUATION, PFOR, SHUM, REFUGEE CAMPS, CIVIL DISORDERS, POLITICAL SITUATION, CASUALTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BEIRUT06782
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760298-1240
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760894/aaaadeix.tel
Line Count: 120
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 MAR 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <24 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RED CROSS BEGINS EVACUATION OF TELL ZAATAR WOUNDED
TAGS: PINT, MILI, PFOR, SHUM, LE
To: SECSTATE WASHDC SIT-REP COLLECTIVE GENEVA USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM CINCUSNAVEUR, LONDON
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GER CIA WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006